[11th September 1958

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : (*a*) There is no paper factory in Madras.

(*b*) The chief raw materials required for the manufacture of paper are bamboo, blue gum, wattle, and eta reed and they are available in this State in Bhavanisagar, Mettur and Papanasam areas.

(*c*) & (*d*) There is no paper factory in this State. These questions do not, therefore, arise so far as this State is concerned. There is no ready information regarding the production of paper in other States.

* 120 *Q.*—SRI K. SATTANATHA KARAYALAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to have a paper mill factory at Ambasamudram in Tirunelveli district?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : According to the Industrial policy of the Government of India, paper industry has been left to be developed in the private sector.

The Government of India have already granted a licence in February 1957 for starting a paper mill with a daily production capacity of 30 tons at Vikramasingapuram, Ambasamudram taluk in Tirunelveli district. But as no effective steps to establish the factory have been taken, the question of cancelling the licence and giving it to some other party is under the consideration of the Government of India.

* 125-B *Q.*—SRI K. RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have examined the possibilities of paper manufacture from palmyra pulp;

(*b*) whether there is any paper mill engaged in making paper out of palmyra pulp in our State; and

(*c*) whether the Government have any proposals to set up such mills in areas where palmyra grows in large numbers?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : (*a*) (*b*) & (*c*) No, Sir.

SRI P. G. MANICKAM : *கரும்புச் சக்கையிலிருந்து காகிதங்கள் செய்யலாம் என்ற ஒரு யோசனை பத்திரிகை மூலமாக வெளியிடப் பட்டிருக்கிறது. இதைப் பரிசீலனை செய்ய சர்க்கார் முன்வருமா ?*

MR. SPEAKER : *இதைப்பற்றித்தான் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் இப்பொழுது சொன்னார்கள்.*

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I must make a difference between newsprint and ordinary paper. It is possible to make ordinary paper from bluegum. But the better raw material is bamboo which is available in plenty in our State. Why then go for substitutes, when nobody has come forward to establish a factory.